



865 E. Del Mar Blvd.
Pasadena, Ca 91101

October 7, 2002

The Federal Communications Commission
C/o Commission Secretary Marlene Dorth
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding 02-306

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce & Civic Association would like to go on record in support of the SBC Pacific Bell application to provide long distance service in the California market. We have studied and monitored this issue for over five years now, and we urge the Commission to approve SBC Pacific Bell's application in a timely manner.

Our organization is comprised of over 1400 members ranging from very large corporate headquarters to very small, even home-based, businesses. Our mission is to serve as an effective economic and political force for our membership. Because often legislation and regulatory measures make it difficult for small businesses to compete, we especially support policies that promote small business growth and offer a more level playing field for all businesses.

The long-distance phone market is currently one that favors large businesses. Most long-distance carriers offer discounts to large companies, while small businesses and residential consumers are left paying high prices. Additionally, there is limited choice in long-distance service due to the barriers to competition.

Our organization supports allowing more carriers to compete in this market with the expected result of lower prices and more choice for all consumers. We ask that you consider this need for more competition and address it by allowing SBC Pacific Bell to enter the long-distance market.

Sincerely,

Lynne C. Hess
President and CEO